

September 30, 2020

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# Drum Beats

## Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians

# Needle Exchange is a lifesaver

New book about program, details importance to those who inject drugs

By Richard J. Pufall

For the Bad River Band

If you are someone who injects drugs, you probably feel all alone in this world. Maybe you feel ashamed, shunned, disrespected, less than human, a second-class citizen with a grim future. You might feel friendless, that no one understands you or that no one cares.

And you would be wrong.

There are people who care, who understand. You are not alone. You have friends.

And those friends are the good folks of the Gwayakobimaadiziwin Bad River Needle Exchange.

Those friends have been around for about six years, reaching out with helping hands to reduce harm, keep people safe, healthy and alive, with no intention of pinning negative labels on anyone or passing judgment.

“We started on this journey in 2014,” said Philomena Kebec, one of the coordinators of the Needle Exchange. “But we had a year and half of research and planning that we had to engage in. And just kind of figuring stuff out.”

They have, indeed, “figured stuff out.” They have served more than 500 “participants,” which is the term for those who inject drugs and are engaged in the Needle Exchange. They have served participants all over northern Wisconsin, not just the Bad River Reservation.



Photo courtesy of the Bad River Needle Exchange

**Aurora Conley, left, and Philomena Kebec, right, coordinators of the Bad River Needle Exchange, visit with U.S. Representative Debra Haaland of New Mexico during the AIDS Watch 2019 lobbying effort.**

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## Exchange

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Evidence of the growth of the Needle Exchange recently blossomed in the form of a 77-page book, titled, "Expanding The Circle of Care," with the subtitle of, "A Practical Guide to Syringe Services for Tribal and Rural Communities."

Kebec, along with Aurora Conley, Courtney Remacle, Sean Akerman and Ana Tochterman are the authors of the book. It is beautifully written, informative, rich in Tribal history and a must-read for anyone interested in the well-being of their fellowman.

"Courtney, Aurora and I have been part of the project. The Gwayakobimaadiziwin project," Kebec said.

She said Conley's contributions to the project cannot be overstated.

"This program would not have happened without her," Kebec said of Conley. "She and I are glued at the hip. She's the heart and soul of this program."

Conley recalled the early days of the program, saying there was a lack of support for what they were doing, and a lack of education, for themselves, their clients and the community.

"We still have a lack of supportive services in regard to AODA, mental health and supportive services for people who inject drugs and we are constantly learning," Conley said. "I think the biggest challenge is watching firsthand our community's struggle, our families. These are our relatives and we love and care about them, at least we are supposed to help take care of each other, and it is very challenging, can be overwhelming and emotional."

"I think some of the (biggest) challenges are the emotional tolls it takes sometimes, especially when we lose someone. We used to think that money was the challenge, but we knew there were opportunities out there, so we carried on."

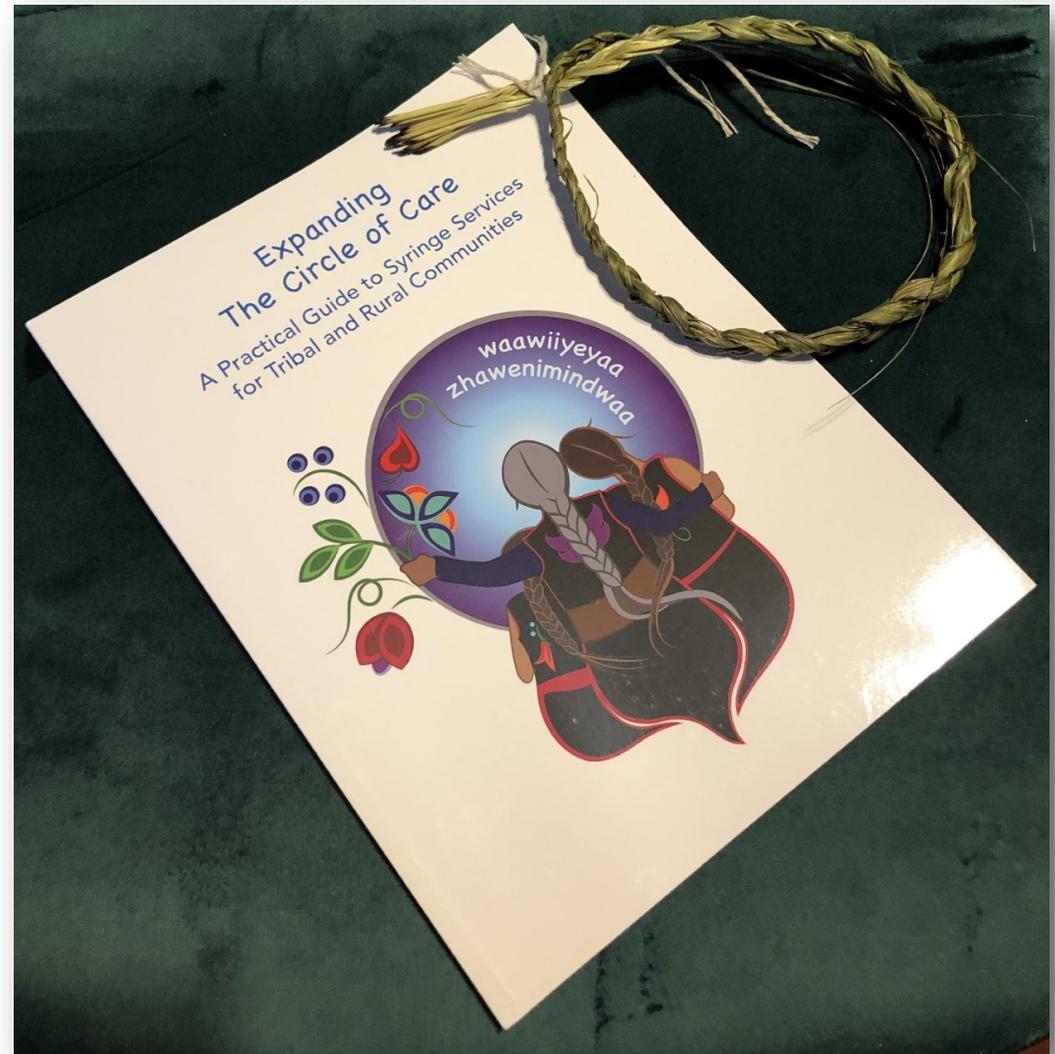


Photo illustration by Philomena Kebec

**This is the cover of the 77-page book recently written by the Gwayakobimaadiziwin Bad River Needle Exchange. The book will soon be circulated in the area and throughout Wisconsin.**

And Kebec said the participants themselves play a huge part in making the program work.

"The people who participate in the program, they are running the program, too," Kebec said. "This is a community organization. It's not like a top-down sort of thing. Aurora and I call ourselves coordinators. We're not in charge, necessarily, but we feel like we're in a supportive role, because the community that we work with, the people who are using are helping each other every day. They make sure people have what they need."

Among the items they need are sterile needles, syringes, sharps containers, tourniquets, alcohol pads and, perhaps most important, naloxone. Naloxone is a medication designed to rapidly reverse opioid overdose. It is an opioid antagonist. That means that it binds to opioid receptors and can reverse and block the effects of other opioids.

In simple terms, it saves lives. "I don't know how many people have been revived from overdose, but I know it's probably in the hundreds," Kebec said. "Hundreds of lives saved. I'd say up to a thousand people."

Kebec explained the way naloxone works, saying people cannot revive themselves. She said the Needle Exchange has provided participants with naloxone, and they have administered the medication at least 1,000 times in the last five years. Some people have been revived more than once.

"We distributed thousands of doses of naloxone in this community," Kebec said. "We're serving people in Bad River and in the Ashland Community. Most of our participants are Native American. But we serve

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Photo courtesy of the Wisconsin State Historical Society

This photo is featured in the “Origins” chapter of the book written by the Gwayakobimaadiziwin Bad River Needle Exchange. The photo, taken in 1889 shows the Anishinaabedog and their home in Odanah. The chapter paints a vivid historical portrait of the Bad River Ojibwe people.

## Exchange

From Page 2

everybody. We serve white folks. I was working with some people from Park Falls ... Bessemer. We've helped people in Red Cliff.”

Kebec said the Needle Exchange program has been, “fully funded on grants for years.” She stressed that no Tribal general or Bureau of Indian Affairs funds are being spent to help non-tribal members.

“But we do want to help other people because we are all connected,” she said.

The Needle Exchange serves a large subset of the Native American community: Native women.

“Our primary focus demographic are Native women,” Kebec said. “We serve more Native women than any other demographic. And providing them access to sterile syringes puts them in the driver’s seat. So, they’re not depending on some man to inject them.

“So, they’re not depending on some man who might put them at risk for HIV; who might inject them in a way that causes an abscess or some kind of blood infection. So, this is about community empowerment and

empowering women to be able to take control of their lives.”

Kebec said the Needle Exchange does not keep records of those who have overdosed. First, that would be difficult to quantify, and second, such information could be used against participants in a court of law.

“To overdose in Wisconsin is to commit a felony,” she said. “People in Wisconsin have been prosecuted for overdosing.”

Kebec, a Bad River Tribal member, grew up in Minneapolis and got her law degree from the University of Minnesota in 2008. In 2002, she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Minnesota in American Indian Studies.

The Bad River Needle Exchange is an all-volunteer venture, which makes Kebec an extremely busy young woman. She has a full-time job as the Policy Analyst for the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. And, most important, she is raising her two children, Beatriz, 13 and Miles, 5.

If you are fluent in Ojibwe, you fully grasp the title of the project: The Gwayakobimaadiziwin Bad River Needle Exchange. But if not ...

“Gwayakobimaadiziwin refers to the act of straightening out our lives. Healing ourselves,” Kebec said. “And just coming to

take care of things in a good way. We like this word because we feel it’s characteristic of how the program operates. It’s about being honest. And just working things out so that we’re living in an honest way.”

Kebec said the Needle Exchange always has had the support of the Tribal Council, which in its early days, included financial backing. But for the most part, expenses today are met with grant money. Or as these words taken from the book’s introduction explain:

*“In 2018 the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa was awarded a two-year policy grant through the AIDS United Syringe Access Fund to assist in addressing gaps in the Tribe’s ability to care for those at risk of opioid overdose and exposure to HIV due to injection drug use. One outcome of this policy grant was to create a toolkit for tribal and rural community clinics in Wisconsin implementing Syringe Services Programs (SSPs).”*

“We started getting grants in 2016, I think, and so we had some smaller operation grants that allowed us to get going with our program,” Kebec said. “The Aids United Grant was our first policy related grant.

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## Exchange

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We've had programmatic grants to help us buy supplies and help us with staff education and training and networking.

"In 2018 the grant was really about making some policy changes. ... This project is really about putting human faces on the issue. Because it's really easy for rural communities to demonize people who use drugs and blame them for all the problems in the world. Addiction is a disease of loneliness and shame."

The actual idea or motivation to create the Needle Exchange, Kebec said, came from questions asked by an acquaintance who works in public health for the Native American Community Clinic and lives in the Twin Cities.

"She asked me, 'what kind of support is there for people who use drugs up there?'" Kebec said. "She asked, 'are you seeing a lot of overdoses? What are you doing to prevent hepatitis C?'"

At that time, the answer was simple: Nothing.

But other factors and significant events of the day played a role in the birth of the Needle Exchange, as well.

"In 2014 there was an HIV outbreak in a small, rural community in southern Indiana. It was terrifying," Kebec said. "At least 150 people became HIV positive because they were injecting drugs and there was no support for them.

"And we knew that was happening here. If somebody didn't step up and do something, we could have a lot of people dealing with HIV. HIV is not the end of the world and there are a lot of people who are able to manage HIV. But this would have been really complicated and expensive for the Tribe to deal with."

Initially, the Needle Exchange was met with mixed reviews and sometimes harsh criticism. The



Photo courtesy of the Bad River Needle Exchange

**The Bad River Needle Exchange program received a donation of two metal supply closets last year. The closets help keep supplies safe and tidy.**

program was seen by some as enabling and supporting the use of illegal drugs. But eventually, most realized the Needle Exchange was all about harm reduction and saving lives.

Others, like Bill Whalen, the former mayor of Ashland who later worked as the Tribal Planner, was on board with the Needle Exchange from the beginning.

"He thought our program was fantastic," Kebec recalled. "I think it's less now, but certainly we experienced outright, vehement opposition to our program, especially when we first started.

But surprisingly there were a lot of people who were very receptive to our program."

Although the program is not about judgment or rehabilitation, the Needle Exchange is quick to refer participants who ask for help.

"All the time," Kebec said. "We make referrals. And what's really nice now, with the new MAT (medication assisted treatment) program at the Tribal Clinic, we have a good place to refer people; where people are actually getting help.

"We've really seen a lot of shifts in our program in the last

year. A lot of people who have been coming to us for a long time, we're no longer seeing because they actually have gotten help. That's huge. That's really huge.

"I've talked to people who are sort of brand new to injecting drugs and I've convinced them it's a bad way to go. And I've really counseled them to do something else.

"And there are other people who have been in the program for a long time and they're interested in trying to get help, trying get treatment and we'll direct them to that other way. But, we don't judge people and we're not in the business of fixing their problems for them or defining what health means to them."

She said for some people, health means using a new syringe every time. And that's a healthier option than what they've been doing before.

Kebec said other participants are cutting down on their drug injections and asking for fewer supplies.

"So instead of giving them a whole box of syringes, I'm just giving them a couple of bags of syringes. And that's how they define health," she said.

And others, she said, are interested in referrals to treatment centers and to doctors who can prescribe medication-assisted treatment.

But the primary target of the Needle Exchange remains in focus: Harm reduction.

"What harm reduction is about, is people who use drugs being in charge of their health care," she said. "Just like people who have heart disease are in charge of their health care. And they have options. And they're given respect."

Without options in regard to their health care, those who use drugs will often feel disrespected and without control, Kebec said.

"They're going to say, 'oh, this person doesn't care about me as a human being,'" she said.

"And so, 'I'm on my own.' And

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## Exchange

From Page 4

that's how people using drugs have been treated. Like, 'I'm just on my own, I have to figure it out myself.'

"This program is about providing more options and more opportunity for people to get help, and really humanizing them. And treating them as adults who can make rational choices."

Needle Exchange participants make their requests for supplies through anonymous calls or texts. The program has no operations building or space of its own. Needle exchanges are made at private residences gas stations, from cars, under stairways, in alcoves or anywhere the participants can feel comfortable and not "outed." Participants are expected to return used needles and syringes in sharps containers.

"We let them know that the program is anonymous and confidential," Kebec said. "This program has been really effective in preventing overdose deaths. But this is not a public health program. This is a community program. It's about giving people respect. And being good listeners. That's what people need. Human beings need someone to listen to them."

Kebec said the Needle Exchange has been able to award stipends to volunteers who put in



Photo by the Bay City News Service

**Philomena Kebec, one of the coordinators of the Bad River Needle Exchange says, "Addiction is a disease of loneliness and shame."**

extra hours, but as you might expect, the rewards for Kebec, Conley and their associates come from helping people and saving lives.

Conley, a Tribal member who has lived here most of her life, said one reward came when she started to feel trusted by the Bad River Community.

"We didn't start this journey intending to do all this," Conley said. "We just wanted to help; help get access to help, from

some of the things we were seeing. It's been rewarding being able to see some of our clients work into recovery, to transform. We greatly appreciate all of our clients in their roles as the program has expanded.

"We of course would love to have an expansive program with an array of services, but we do our best in collaborating and referrals. Sometimes the smallest rewards are the greatest – simple as having Narcan (naloxone)

available and saving someone's life. We've seen tragedy, we've seen triumph."

And together, Conley and Kebec have seen a program that works. A program that cares.

"As our naloxone program had expanded, we've had a lot of people who have been able to live, when it was almost certain they would have died otherwise," Kebec said. "There has been many, many people in the community who have been revived with naloxone. It's changed hearts and minds."

Since grant money fuels the engine that keeps the Needle Exchange running, the new book, "Expanding The Circle of Care," should draw positive attention and perhaps lead to additional revenue streams.

Kebec said 1,000 copies of the book have been printed and bound in soft cover. Most of the books will be distributed and circulated for free at community clinics in the state, in the justice system, to Bad River community members, the Tribal Council and elected representatives such as Wisconsin's U.S. Senators Tammy Baldwin (D) and Ron Johnson (R).

"The people who use drugs are not bad people," Kebec said. "They're doing the best they can with the tools they have."

And they are not alone. In the Bad River Needle Exchange, they have a friend.

*Send email to Richard J. Pufall at [NewsLetter@BadRiver-nsn.gov](mailto:NewsLetter@BadRiver-nsn.gov)*

## What's your story?

If you know of a good story from the Bad River Community that needs to be told in "Drum Beats," just send an email to [NewsLetter@BadRiver-nsn.gov](mailto:NewsLetter@BadRiver-nsn.gov) or call 920-857-4673.



# Good election advice: Vote!

Stone urges Bad River, Red Cliff Tribes to exercise a hard-fought right

By Richard J. Pufall  
For the Bad River Band

April Stone is passionate about the voting rights of Wisconsin's Native Americans. Her resolve resonates in her voice and leaps from her eyes.

And it's not just because she works as a Regional Tribal Organizer for Wisconsin Conservation Voices, with a mission to get out the vote for the November 3 election on The Bad River and Red Cliff Reservations. It's much more than that, you see.

She is well aware of the United States government's shameful history when it comes to citizenship and the right to vote for Indigenous Americans. And she is well aware of the long struggle to secure those rights from an oppressive and racist government.

"We had to fight for this right, forever," Stone said. "In 1868 the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment was passed and that guaranteed citizenship, but it did not guarantee citizenship for Native Americans in the United States."

Indeed, the government specifically interpreted the law so it applied to black Americans – recently freed slaves – and not Native people.

"Then in 1924 they passed the Indian Citizenship Act which made us citizens, but it did not include the right to vote," said Stone, a life-long member of the Bad River Tribe who lives on the Reservation.

"We didn't have that right until 1962. Utah was the last state to allow Native Americans the right to vote. But there were barriers. There were polling taxes, there was literacy tasked voter fraud.

"So, finally in 1965 the Voting



Photo by The Bay City News Service

**April Stone, with majestic Chequamegon Bay looming in the background, delivers an important message to Native American voters as Election Day approaches on November 3.**

Rights Act was passed. And it's kind of ended the racial discrimination and worked to prevent those barriers for Native Americans to vote. So, that wasn't that long ago."

Stone's work is non-partisan and non-profit. Sure, she knows for whom she will vote, but her ballot is secret, as it should be, especially with the U.S. Presidency among the offices hanging in the balance. She just wants to do what she can to make sure this precious Native vote is not wasted.

"I want to put myself out there for people," Stone said.

To encourage Tribal members to vote she will help people to

register on-line or to request absentee ballots. Originally, her plan was to spend time on both reservations in a 10 x 10 pop-up tent, making daily contacts with people and encouraging them to register and vote. But COVID-19 scuttled her plans, just as it has for many others.

There were 54,526 Indigenous Americans living in the State of Wisconsin, according to the most recent figures obtained in 2010.

"There's a high population of Native Americans in Wisconsin and if they did register and show up at the polls to vote they would have a great impact," Stone said.

The Wisconsin Native Vote is also promoting the 2020 election as a vote for the future of our children, the future of our planet, and the future of the 7th Generation.

In fact, in her work Stone has been handing out COVID-19 masks that read, "I vote for the 7<sup>th</sup> gen." That would mean the November 3 vote would have lasting significance for about 140 years, or until the year 2160.

"It's hard for me to pass them out, because we're in a pandemic," Stone said of the masks.

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**Request a Bad River Tribal absentee ballot: See Page 31**

## Native Vote

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“And technically, I’m not supposed to go door-to-door.”

But Stone was very clear about the goals of the Wisconsin Native Vote.

“It’s to provide voter education to people,” Stone said. “It’s to remind them that our people have not always had the right to vote. And we had to fight hard for this.”

“You’re going to the polls to make the decision right now, in 2020, but it’s going to affect seven generations down the road. It’s important to not just think of yourself in the here and now. That’s important, but when you cast your vote it’s going to affect generations, and generations and generations from now.”

“We always have to keep in mind our children and our children’s children. And to get Indigenous people to the polls.”

And to help get voters to the polls, Stone is working to ensure that the transit operations on both reservations are operational on Election Day.

But, of course, since the beginning of democracy, there have been those who contend, “my vote doesn’t matter.” Stone disagrees.

“You have a vote, you have a say,” she said. “And if you’re not going to use it, somebody else will gladly use it for you. Everybody who doesn’t vote; and that adds up to lots and lots and lots of people ... Just think of the impact they would have if they actually cast their vote. If you want to complain about something you don’t have a right to do that if you’re not voting.”

Stone is the mother of four grown children and also runs a basket-making business. She has been serving Wisconsin Conservation Voices since the end of July and her work will end on November 3, Election Day. But ...

“It just doesn’t end there for me,” she said. “I’m trying to think about how to continue this work year-round because I think this is really important work. I’d like to see closer to 100 percent turnout on all the reservations in Wisconsin.”

For more voter information, contact April Stone by phone at (715) 292-2760 or by email at [April@ConservationVoices.org](mailto:April@ConservationVoices.org)



Wisconsin Native  
**VOTE**

For voting info visit: [ConservationVoices.org/NativeVote](https://ConservationVoices.org/NativeVote)  
Or call 608-285-2141



**VOTE ON OR BEFORE  
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 3**  
Find your polling place: [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov)

<b>REGISTER TO VOTE</b>	<b>REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT</b>	<b>YOU CAN VOTE IF</b>
You need:	Once you are registered, you can:	✓ You are a U.S. citizen
✓ Proof of Residency	Request a ballot here:	✓ 18 years or older on Election Day
<b>WHERE TO REGISTER</b>	✓ Request a ballot here:	✓ Have lived at your address at least 28 days before Election Day
✓ At this link: <a href="https://wcv.votewisconsin.com">wcv.votewisconsin.com</a>	✓ Request a ballot here: <a href="https://wcv.votewisconsin.com/absentee">wcv.votewisconsin.com/absentee</a>	✓ Are off papers from any felony conviction
✓ In person on Election Day (you’ll need a photo ID and proof of residence) <small>*WI tribal ID is a valid photo ID</small>	<b>Questions about voting or getting an ID? Call 608-285-2141</b>	



# COVID-19 spike closes schools

Seven cases remain active on Reservation

By Richard J. Pufall  
For the Bad River Band

A large spike in positive cases of COVID-19 in Ashland County, reported on September 23, prompted the Ashland School District to close its classrooms for a least two weeks.

Additionally, all taverns in and around Ashland were ordered closed, set to begin at one minute after midnight on September 25 and lasting until one minute before midnight on October 11.

However, the order to close the bars was quickly rescinded after the Tavern League of Wisconsin stepped in and pointed out that proper notice to the public was not given before county officials issued the edict.

But the bottom line reflected the sharp increase in positive cases of the virus. Two weeks ago, Ashland County was sitting at 43 COVID-19 cases. But since September 16, that number has nearly tripled, jumping to 122, with two deaths.

Meanwhile, the health news on the Bad River Reservation was a bit more encouraging, with eight new cases of the virus reported, bringing the total to 15. However, eight have recovered, leaving seven active cases, according to the Health and Wellness Center.

The identities of the Tribal members who have contracted

**For updates on the Bad River Tribe's efforts to combat COVID-19, the coronavirus pandemic, click the link below**

[Website](#)

## Tracking COVID-19

As of this morning, September 30, there were 7,096,949 cases of COVID-19, the coronavirus, in the United States, with 204,363 deaths. The first coronavirus case in Wisconsin was reported on February 5. There are 7 active cases of COVID-19 on the Bad River Reservation remaining from 15 positive tests. There have been a total of 119,955 cases reported in the state and 1,300 deaths.

## Numbers in our 4-county area

<u>County</u>	<u>Reported cases</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Ashland	122	2
Bayfield	113	1
Iron	143	1
Douglas	493	0

the COVID-19 virus cannot be made public, in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

“We cannot give any health status updates without the consent of patients, as that is protected under HIPAA, even without giving names,” said Pam Feustel, Public Health Nurse. “Our apologies.”

According to Public Health

Nurse Tina Gerovac-Lavasseur, the BRHWC has recorded approximately 1,436 negative tests of COVID-19, as of Tuesday, Sept. 29.

“We continue to test between 30-50 individuals a day,” Gerovac-Lavasseur said.

On Saturday, Sept. 12, a mass testing took place in the Health and Wellness Center parking lot, at which time two more positive cases of COVID-19

were detected. On Friday, Sept. 18, there was a mass testing, assisted by the Wisconsin National Guard in the Bayfield County Garage in Washburn.

And the National Guard assisted the Tribe in another testing, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26 in the Bad River Casino parking lot.

“We do not have the results from the Wisconsin National

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## COVID-19

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Guard testing in Bayfield at this time,” Feustel said. “We are evaluating our COVID-19 situation here in Bad River continually throughout the day and will be looking at the potential of mass testings based on need in the community.”

At present, the BRHWC conducts its mass testings outside in an open-sided respiratory tent behind the Wellness Center. And that will present a problem when the weather turns cold and blustery. But the BRHWC is prepared.

“We do continue to utilize our respiratory tent outside behind the clinic,” Gerovac-Lavasseur said. “The tent is able to be closed in with sides, and we can add heat when necessary when the weather changes. At this time, that is our plan. If we can contain the area in which potential cases would be tested, this does lessen the risk for others.”

And even under perfect weather conditions, mass testings such as the one on September 12, present a physical challenge.

“We had approximately 20 staff involved in the event,” Feustel recalled. “It was physically demanding; however, all the staff were volunteers. It was a great day of teamwork and serving the community. The experience overall was an extremely rewarding one.”

Send email to Richard J. Pufall at [NewsLetter@BadRiver-nsn.gov](mailto:NewsLetter@BadRiver-nsn.gov)



Bad River Health and Wellness Center  
53585 Nokomis Road  
Ashland, WI 54806-4272

Bad River Dental  
Phone: 715.685.7887  
Fax: 715.685.7886  
Main Clinic: 715.682.7133

### What are we doing at Bad River Dental to keep you safe during COVID-19?

#### IN THE LOBBY:

- Chairs are wiped with disinfectant after use.
- Clipboards and pens are wiped with disinfectant after each use.
- Consent for treatment asked for and signed by front desk staff to avoid contamination.
- Sneeze guard has been installed to protect us and you.
- 6 feet markers on the carpet to ensure social distancing.
- Limited and separated seating in the waiting area.
- Thorough disinfection of entire lobby 4 times per day.

#### OUR STAFF:

- We wear PPE (personal protective equipment) to protect ourselves and you:
  - N95 masks
  - Face shields
  - Eye protection
  - Lab coats
  - Gloves
- Dental staff is temperature checked daily.
- Dental staff is COVID-19 tested weekly.

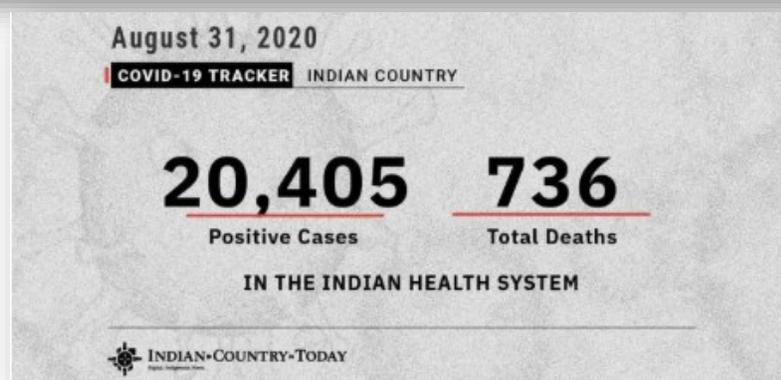
#### TREATMENT ROOMS:

- Our treatment rooms are negative pressure rooms, meaning the air is removed from the previous patient visit before you sit down for your visit.
- The room's surfaces are wiped with hospital grade disinfectant, twice, between each patient that uses it.

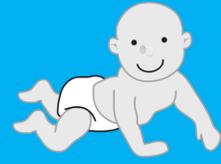
#### STERILIZATION PRACTICES:

- Instruments and handpieces are cleaned and sterilized after every patient use.
- Strict adherence to CDC guidelines infection control guidelines is practiced.
- Single use/disposable items are used whenever possible.

**Safety for you, our patient, has always been our top priority. We pride ourselves on our sterilization and infection control procedures. Rest assured that we have taken measures to further protect our patients during COVID19.**



# Sleep Baby Safe



Third of a series: Spread the word!

## For the details!



**Carol Nickel**

If you would like more detailed information on safe sleep, please do not hesitate to reach out to me:

*Carol Nickel RN MCH*  
*Bad River Health and Wellness Center*  
 715-682-7133 ext. 4354  
[c.nickel@badriverHWC.com](mailto:c.nickel@badriverHWC.com)

Or look for more information in the October 14 newsletter. Until then, "SLEEP SAFE."

Photo courtesy  
 of the  
 Safe to Sleep Campaign

## Spread the word!

Make sure *everyone* who cares for your baby knows the ways to reduce the risk of SIDS and sleep-related infant deaths.

Talk with your health care provider about any questions or challenges related to safe sleep practices for your baby.

Help family members, siblings, grandparents, babysitters, day care workers—**EVERYONE**—reduce your baby's risk.

Share these safe sleep messages with those who care for your baby or for any baby younger than 1 year of age.

### Remember:

Babies sleep safest on their backs for naps and at night!



18



## **Tribal Council**

**Mike Wiggins, Jr.**

Chairman

**Mike Berlin**

Vice-Chairman

**Jay McFee**

Secretary

**Etta Burns**

Treasurer

**Barbara Smart**

Senior Member

**Peter Powless**

Senior Member

**Dylan Jennings**

Junior Member

## **Address**

Bad River Tribe  
72682 Maple Street  
Odanah, WI 54806

## **Tribal Mission Statement:**

*To work toward a more progressive, financially stable government; to maintain Tribal Sovereignty; and enable members to progress individually, toward a more fulfilling life culturally, spiritually, and economically.*



## **'Mino-dibishkaan' to our Elders**

*Taking the cake, in October*

**October 1**

Mark Bender  
Debra Heggie

**October 2**

Joseph D. Rose

**October 4**

Joseph L. Corbine  
Yvonne Soulier

**October 5**

Samuel D. Livingston

**October 8**

KC Goss  
Francis Leoso  
Edward Neveaux

**October 10**

Delphine Hurd  
Walter Soulier

**October 11**

Rose Bender

**October 13**

Michael Rufus

**October 16**

Debra Conley  
Karla Baker  
Donald Neveaux

**October 19**

Scott Maday

**October 24**

Guy Arbuckle

**October 26**

Patti Bigboy

**October 28**

David Moore  
Denise Neveaux

**October 29**

Sandra Corbine

**October 30**

Paul Kraft

**October 31**

Jeffrey Neveaux  
Ervin Soulier



**(Our apologies if we've missed someone. Please let us know).**



# COVID-19 is no match for Tribe

Some would say it was inevitable. Some would say it was only a matter of time. Some would say that all communities, large and small, would one day be touched by the icy hand of the COVID-19 virus.

But on September 8, when the first positive case of COVID-19 was reported on the Bad River Reservation, no Tribal member was ready to welcome this invisible, sinister visitor to their homeland.

And, quite frankly, the news came as a shock. After all, Bad River had eluded COVID-19 for more than seven months since the first reported positive case in Wisconsin on February 5.

But since September 8, the number of positive cases in Bad River has risen to 15, with 8 recovered. That first case involved a Tribal member who contracted COVID-19 while attending an off-Reservation gathering.

But what is most important has been the community response to his dangerous intrusion.

The Bad River Tribal Council acted first and swiftly on September 9, issuing a shelter at home order for all Tribal members who live on the Reservation. That meant only work and other essential services would be allowed on Tribal property.

Then, on Saturday, Sept. 12, The Bad River Health and Wellness Center conducted a mass testing of 200 residents, which revealed two more COVID-19 positives. It was a demanding day for the Health and Wellness staff, conducting tests from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. But it was worth it to discover two more neighbors in need of medical attention.

To be sure, positive tests in Bad River, or any Reservation in the United States are noteworthy. Native Americans, you see, seem to be at greater risk.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a study in August that examined how COVID-19 is impacting American Indians and Alaska Natives – one of the racial and ethnic minority groups at highest risk from the virus. The CDC discovered that in 23 states selected for the study, the cumulative incidence of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases among American Indians and Alaska Natives was 3.5 times greater than non-Hispanic whites.

Also, these data revealed that American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) who tested positive for SARS-COV-2 tended to be younger than white non-Hispanic individuals with COVID-19 infection. Compared with whites, a higher percentage of cases among AI/AN were in people under 18 years of age (12.9 percent AI/AN; 4.3 percent white), and a smaller percentage of cases were among AI/AN 65 years or older (12.6 percent AI/AN; 28.6 percent white). Not much data were available to quantify the disparity in COVID-19 incidence, COVID-19 disease severity, and

outcomes among AI/AN persons compared with those among other racial/ethnic groups. This reinforced the need to prioritize improved data collection as a key approach to improve health outcomes.

Furthermore, recent CDC studies have shown that AI/AN are among the racial and ethnic minority groups at higher risk for severe COVID-19 outcomes. According to the study, persisting racial inequity and historical trauma have contributed to disparities in health and socioeconomic factors between AI/AN and white populations that have adversely affected tribal communities. The elevated incidence among this group might also reflect differences in reliance on shared transportation, household size, limited access to running water, and other factors that might facilitate community transmission.

But on the Bad River Reservation, away from these scientific studies, there has been empirical evidence of a community of family and friends who care for each other and have joined together to defeat COVID-19.

Bad River Public Health Nurse Tina Gerovac-Lavasseur spoke for everyone when she said, “There have been many concerns, and rightfully so, as this is a scary time for all of us.”

But COVID-19 is no match for the Tribe!

Out of these scary times comes strength and a resolve to meet this challenge head-on and stay the course to good health.

“We did identify our first positives,” Gerovac-Lavasseur said. “However, the community really deserves the credit here. They are willing and continue to follow all of the guidance to protect themselves, their family, and the community.”

And that will not change.

Send email to Richard J. Pufall at [NewsLetter@BadRiver-nsn.gov](mailto:NewsLetter@BadRiver-nsn.gov)



By Richard J. Pufall

For the Bad River Band



To get **“Drum Beats,”** the newsletter for the Bad River Band, text your email address to 920-857-4673, or send email to [NewsLetter@BadRiver-nsn.gov](mailto:NewsLetter@BadRiver-nsn.gov)



# BAD RIVER BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS



CHIEF BLACKBIRD CENTER

P.O. Box 39 Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

## BAD RIVER TRIBAL COUNCIL ISSUES A SHELTER AT HOME ORDER

On September 8, 2020, the Bad River Health & Wellness Center confirmed a positive COVID-19 Tribal Member within the community traced to an off reservation gathering. There has been an additional Covid-19 positive test from a person residing within the Bad River Reservation. The Bad River Tribal Council has determined that a shelter at home order is in the best interests of the Band and its members and is necessary to protect public health and safety,

The Bad River Tribal Council does hereby order all persons currently living on the Bad River Reservation to stay home or in their place of residence except to engage in necessary activities and work, as described below, beginning on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 8:00am and until further notice.

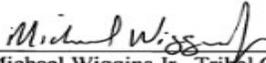
Shelter at Home guidance for activities deemed necessary:

- Leave their home or residence and relocate to a safe alternative home or residence, if their homes or residences are unsafe or become unsafe, including homes and residences in which persons have suffered from or are at risk of domestic violence, or in which safety, sanitation or essential operations cannot be maintained;
- Engage in activities essential for the health and safety of family, household members and pets, including seeking medical or behavioral health or emergency services and obtaining medical supplies or medication;
- Obtain necessary supplies and services for family or household members and pets, such as groceries, food, and supplies for household consumption and use; laundry services; supplies and equipment needed to work from home; and products necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential maintenance of the homes, residences, and personally-owned vehicles;
- Care for a family member, friend, or pet in another household or residence, and to transport a family member, friend, or pet for essential health and safety activities, and to obtain necessary supplies and services;
- Engage in outdoor exercise activities, such as walking, hiking, running, or biking, but only if appropriate social distancing practices are used;
- Engage in ceremonial or religious activities;
- Gather food and medicines for traditional or agricultural purposes;
- Travel to exempted activities and travel to return to a home or place of residence; and
- Travel to and from their home or residence, place of work, and child care location, if their work duties cannot be performed at their home or residence and their work duties have been designated as essential by the Band, by any other governmental entity, or by an employer;

People at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19, such as elderly people and those with underlying health conditions, are strongly urged to stay in their home or residence, except as necessary to seek medical care and obtain other necessities of life, even when the terms of this order would allow them to leave their home or residence.

The Bad River Tribal Council encourages non-members to avoid travel to the Bad River reservation for any non-essential purposes.

In the interests of health and safety, the Tribal Council will use available means to enforce any mandatory 14-day self-isolation and/or quarantine orders issued by the Bad River Health Department under Chapter 146 - Disorderly Conduct of the Tribal Court Code.

  
 Michael Wiggins Jr., Tribal Chairman  
 (715) 292-2930  
 mikew@badriver.com

# BAD RIVER BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

CHIEF BLACKBIRD CENTER

P.O. Box 39 Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

Date: September 9, 2020  
To: Department Heads  
From: Mike Wiggins Jr. Tribal Chairman/Executive Director  
Subject: Essential Services

Our Tribal Council is moving with caution in regard to the recent Covid-19 positive in our community. It is with profound concern for the health and safety of our employees, families and community that we find it necessary to issue a "shelter at home" order.

We have been through some of the precautions in the past and once again it is going to be imperative that certain essential services remain available to our community and organization to serve and protect all of our people.

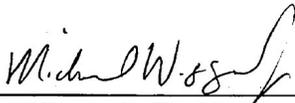
- The Bad River Clinic will continue services, although they will be going back to testing for Covid-19 in the back area under a tent as they did previously.
- Accounting will need to continue to provide necessary functions for the overall operations of our Tribal Government
- The Chief Blackbird Center will remain open with check in screening and appointments for vehicle related business and enrollment.
- The Bad River Tribal Court will be re-issuing its pandemic scheduling and operations protocol.
- Social Services and Mashkizibii Natural Resources will continue with scheduling strategy and remote work delegation as needed to minimize grouping and close contacts.

Department Heads will once again be tasked with reviewing and defining essential services in their department. Please be advised of the following:

- Essential Services must be formally defined by you as they relate to your department.
- Remote work, scheduling strategy to minimize groups, and virtual meetings are all advised for departments.
- Department Heads will approve time submitted via TMS. Activity Logs must be provided to HR if requested.

I greatly appreciate all that you all are doing to keep Tribal Operations running in place with as much efficiency as possible during these times. Each day brings new challenges for us and we are all rising to that challenge.

Miigwech.



Michael Wiggins Jr., Tribal Chairman  
(715) 292-2930  
mikew@badriver.com

**Bad River  
Dental Clinic**

**SMILES ON  
WHEELS**



**POSTPONED**

**DENTAL OUTREACH PROGRAM TO SCHOOLS  
POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO  
COVID-19**

Bad River Dental Clinic welcomes you to their clinic for care.  
Call 715-685-7887 today to schedule your or your children's visit!



# What Your Test Results Mean

Accessible version available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/testing/diagnostic-testing.html>

## If you test positive for COVID-19

TAKE STEPS TO HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19



### STAY HOME.

Do not leave your home, except to get medical care. Do not visit public areas.



### STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR DOCTOR.



### GET REST AND STAY HYDRATED.

Take over-the-counter medicines, such as acetaminophen, to help you feel better.

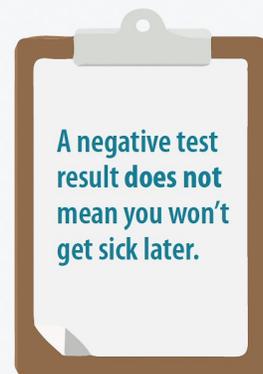


### SEPARATE YOURSELF FROM OTHER PEOPLE.

As much as possible, stay in a specific room and away from other people and pets in your home.

## If you test negative for COVID-19

- You probably were not infected at the time your sample was collected.
- However, **that does not mean you will not get sick.**
- It is possible that you were very early in your infection when your sample was collected and that **you could test positive later.**



**A negative test result does not mean you won't get sick later.**



[CDC.GOV/CORONAVIRUS](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

# COVID-19: Quarantine vs. Isolation

**QUARANTINE** keeps someone who was in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 away from others.



**If you had close contact with a person who has COVID-19**



- Stay home until 14 days after your last contact.



- Check your temperature twice a day and watch for symptoms of COVID-19.



- If possible, stay away from people who are at higher-risk for getting very sick from COVID-19.



**ISOLATION** keeps someone who is sick or tested positive for COVID-19 without symptoms away from others, even in their own home.



**If you are sick and think or know you have COVID-19**



- Stay home until after
  - At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared **and**
  - At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**
  - Symptoms have improved



**If you tested positive for COVID-19 but do not have symptoms**



- Stay home until after
  - 10 days have passed since your positive test



If you live with others, stay in a specific “sick room” or area and away from other people or animals, including pets. Use a separate bathroom, if available.

# Isolation & Quarantine Orders Must Be Followed



The Wisconsin Supreme Court decision on Safer at Home does **NOT** stop local health departments from issuing isolation and quarantine orders.

## WHAT THIS MEANS



Those **ill** with COVID-19 must follow isolation orders

-  Public health will call you
-  Public health will give you instructions
-  You must follow these instructions



Those **exposed** to COVID-19 must follow quarantine orders

-  Public health will call you
-  Public health will give you instructions
-  You must follow these instructions



## Reminder: Bad River is under a “Shelter at Home” order!



### How do I know if I was exposed?

If you think you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, follow the steps below to monitor your health and to avoid spreading the disease to others. You generally need to be in close contact with a sick person to get infected. Close contact includes:

- Living in the same household as a sick person with COVID-19
- Caring for a sick person with COVID-19
- Being within 6 feet of a sick person with COVID-19 for about 15 minutes
- Being in direct contact with secretions from a sick person with COVID-19 (e.g. being coughed on, kissing, sharing utensils, etc.)

If you have not been in close contact with a person who you know had COVID-19, you are at low, but not zero risk for infection. Cases of COVID-19 do occur due to community spread from people you may not know have COVID-19, which is why hand hygiene, wearing a face mask or cloth covering, and social distancing are important prevention measures.

If you have been exposed to a person with COVID-19 but not in close contact, you can continue to go to work or school but you should monitor your health for 14 days and, if you become ill, you should stay away from others and contact your health care provider.

**Bad River Public Health will provide support or assistance to help meet the needs of individuals who are isolated or quarantined. This may include meeting basic needs such as medications, food, and potentially shelter.**

**The next 2 weeks will be important to protect yourself and family. Please continue to follow the guidelines and “Shelter at Home” order.**

**Stay Safe & Be Well!!**



# Tribal face-covering requirement



## Bad River Public Health Release New tribal wide face mask, Face Shield, Face Coverings Requirement

Effective Immediately, Bad River Public Health is issuing a Tribal wide face mask, face shield, face coverings requirement.

This requirement applies Tribal wide to: All Tribal Buildings and Tribal Enterprise Areas

- everyone age 5 and older wear a face covering or mask when in any and all Bad River buildings and transportation vehicles, where others are present. We recognize this is not a standard infection prevention, however, we find ourselves in extraordinary times and given current circumstances, this requirement is necessary.
- Per the requirement, individuals must wear a face covering that covers their nose and mouth when in the public areas of the Tribal work settings (Hallways, restrooms, commons areas), waiting in lines, and while on public transportation, or are in places where the six feet of social distancing isn't possible. Pam Feustel, Bad River Public Health Nurse, states that "social distancing and wearing masks are going to be our most effective tools in slowing the spread of COVID and keeping our community safe."
- If someone is unable to wear a mask or face covering due to a medical condition or disability, please ask that Tribal Office or business for reasonable accommodation. For Tribal Employees seeking an exemption, please check with your immediate supervisor, and consult with public health. Children age 2 through 4 are highly encouraged to wear masks in public, children 5 and older are required to wear masks. If your child is not able to wear a mask, please plan ahead and avoid public areas referenced in this memo.

Masks will be available at the entrance of each building. They will be issued at the start of each shift, and continued to be worn throughout the day. If

**(Continued on Page 21)**

**(Continued from Page 20)**

employees are at their work station/desk and are able to social distance (6ft), it is not required to keep the mask on. In the event that the mask becomes visibly soiled, saturated, or damaged, a new mask must be obtained. We ask all personnel to make every effort to help preserve the supply of PPE and reduce the need for replacement masks whenever possible. In place of a procedural face mask, simply wear a bandana, scarf, or neck gaiter around your nose and mouth. Or you may create a cloth face covering by either sewing one or using a no-sew method on the CDC website. Medical-grade surgical masks or N95 respirators are not required or necessary for general public use. Please see attached procedure on how to Don (apply) and Doff (remove) a face mask.

In addition to wearing a mask, these actions will help protect yourself and others from COVID-19:

- **Stay home if you are sick or feel off.**
- **Stay home if you do not need to go out.** Working from home, virtual gatherings, and using curbside or delivery ordering are still the safest and best options to protect yourself and others.
- **Stay 6 feet from other people.** Respiratory droplets are in the air when other people cough, sneeze, talk and breathe. Staying 6 feet from others will lower the chances of you coming in contact with the virus from those droplets.
- **Assume you have come in contact with COVID-19 if you go out.** Watch for symptoms like fever, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, body aches, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. If you have these symptoms, call your doctor to be tested.

**Public Health Contacts:**

Pam Feustel  
Phone: 715-682-7133 ext. 4344  
Cell: 715-292-7368  
[p.fesutel@badriverhwc.com](mailto:p.fesutel@badriverhwc.com)

Tina Gerovac-Lavasseur  
Phone: 715-682-7133 ext. 4501  
Cell: 715-292-9666  
[t.gerovac@badriverhwc.com](mailto:t.gerovac@badriverhwc.com)

**(Continued on Page 22)**

**(Continued from Page 21)****Infection Prevention Guidance on Donning and Doffing Face Masks****To Doff (remove) face mask with intent to reuse:**

1. Perform hand hygiene
2. Remove mask (remove procedure mask by holding the ear loops. The front is contaminated so remove slowly and carefully.)
3. After removing face mask, visually inspect for contamination, distortion in shape/form. If soiled, torn, or saturated the mask should be discarded.
4. If the face mask is NOT visibly soiled, torn, or saturated, carefully store on a paper towel, or in a bag, exterior side down.
5. Perform hand hygiene.

**To Re-Don (apply) Mask:**

1. Perform hand hygiene
2. Grasp Mask (pinch procedure mask at the ear loops)
3. Place over face (secure ear loops behind the ears. Secure mask)
4. Perform hand hygiene

**A disposable face mask can be worn throughout your shift if not visibly soiled, torn or saturated, and NOT touched while delivering patient care.**



## Isolation/Quarantine Order for the Bad River Community

**Note: The quarantine ordinance puts into place the legal enforcement mechanism if a Tribal member who tests positive for COVID-19 refuses to quarantine for the safety of the Bad River Community.**



### Isolation/Quarantine Order for the Bad River Community



This Order outlines the Bad River Community's overall approach of how quarantine and isolation status is applied during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Tribe has authorized the enforcement of isolation and quarantine orders for communicable diseases, like COVID-19, under Chapter 146 - Disorderly Conduct of the Tribal Court Code.

The Tribe reserves the right to modify this order or actions taken under it at any time based on with developing guidance and best practices for COVID-19. Additionally, while this Order outlines the overall approach, specific directions may differ as appropriate based on medical conditions.

#### DEFINITIONS

- Close Contact: A person is considered to be a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19 if they met any one of the following scenarios:
  - 1) Did you have direct physical contact with the person (e.g. hug, kiss, handshake)?
  - 2) Were you within 6 feet of the person for more than 15 minutes?
  - 3) Could the person have had contact with any of your respiratory secretions (e.g. Coughed/sneezed on, contact with dirty tissue, sharing a drinking glass, food or towels or other personal items).
  - 4) Did you stay overnight for at least one night in a household with the person (i.e., household contact)?
- Indirect Contact: A person is an indirect contact if they have prolonged (15 minutes or more) contact with someone who is not positive, but is considered as having close contact (as defined above) to a person who tested positive for COVID-19.
- Household contact: Any person who lives in or spent at least one night in the house of a person who tested positive for COVID-19 during the infectious period.

#### PERSONS UNDER QUARANTINE OR ISOLATION ORDERS

NOTE: Persons who are under quarantine orders due to a positive COVID-19 test are not released from quarantine until they receive documentation from Public Health Director discharging them from the quarantine order. This Order provides guidance on when such a discharge from quarantine typically occurs.

Persons who tested positive for COVID-19:

Persons (both employees and non-employees) who tested positive for COVID-19 will be quarantined. If the person is under the Tribe's jurisdiction, they will be quarantined per Chapter 146 - Disorderly Conduct of Tribal Court Code.

If the person is outside of the Tribe's jurisdiction, a quarantine recommendation will be issued. The local public health authority where they live in may issue additional isolation/quarantine requirements.

**(Continued on Page 24)**

**(Continued from Page 23)**

If a person is tested at a site other than the Bad River Health & Wellness Center, the person shall inform Public Health at 715-682-7133 #4344 or 715-292-7368 of their test date and medical documentation.

All persons who test positive will be contacted by contact tracers to identify who else may have been exposed to COVID-19. Persons who tested positive shall provide all information to the contact tracer to include past travel, symptoms, and who they were in contact with.

Quarantine will be discontinued once the person with the positive case meets the following:

- 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared or the positive COVID-19 test result AND
- You have had no fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers) AND
- All symptoms have resolved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have resolved) AND
- If testing is not completed at the BRHWC, the community member must provide a certification of clearance from a qualified health provider. The result must be given to Public Health at 715-682-7133 #4344.

Employees will require medical authorization clearing them to return to work.

Household Contacts of a person who tested positive for COVID-19:

Household contacts will be subject to an isolation or quarantine order. If the household contacts are under the jurisdiction of the Tribe, they will be isolated or quarantined per Chapter 146 - Disorderly Conduct.

If the household contacts are not under tribal jurisdiction, an isolation/quarantine recommendation will be issued. Their local public health authority may issue additional isolation/quarantine requirements. All employees of the Bad River Tribe are required to report instances when members of their household are confirmed COVID-19 positive to Public Health.

All persons in a household of someone who tested positive will be contacted by contact tracers to identify who else may have been exposed to COVID-19. Persons in the household of someone who tested positive shall provide all information to the contact tracer to include past travel, symptoms, and who they were in contact with.

Isolation/quarantine of the household contacts will be discontinued once the person meets the following:

- 14 days have passed since the person in the household was released from quarantine.
  - NOTE: For people who continued to live in the same house, this 14-day timeframe begins at the end of the quarantine period for the person who

**(Continued on Page 25)**

**(Continued from Page 24)**

tested positive (when they are released). This requirement is due to the fact that persons living with the infected person could be infected throughout the entire initial quarantine period when the person was infectious.

- o NOTE: For people who do not continue to live in the same house (such as if they were a visitor for one night or the infected person is separated into an entirely separate area such as self-contained basement, camper, or cabin), then this 14-day period begins as of the date of last contact with the person who tested positive. Public Health will need to accept that the separation is adequate in order to allow tracking under this provision.

And

- You do not develop symptoms (Fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle pain, loss of taste or smell).
- If symptoms develop during the 14-day period, you must report symptoms to Public Health (715-292-7368) and contact your primary care provider.

Employees will require medical authorization clearing them to return to work.

People who have Close Contact with a person identified as having COVID-19 or those who had Close Contact (2 days prior or less) to a person who later tested positive for COVID-19.

Employees who had close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 shall notify Public Health of the close contact and isolate themselves in their home. Contact tracers will interview those with close contact to confirm the contact. If the contact is confirmed, those with close contact will be tested for COVID-19. If the results are positive the person will follow the guidance for Persons who tested positive for COVID-19. If the results are negative, the person will require to isolate themselves in their home for 14 days from the date of close contact with the person who tested positive or a negative test result is received. Employees will require medical authorization clearing them to return to work.

Non-employees who had close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 shall notify Public Health (715-292-7368 or 715-682-7133) of the close contact and isolate themselves in their home. Contact tracers will interview those with close contact to confirm the contact. If the contact is confirmed, those with close contact will be tested for COVID-19. If the results are positive the person will follow the guidance for Persons who tested positive for COVID-19. If the results are negative, the person will require to isolate themselves in their home for 14 days from the date of close contact with the person who tested positive or until a negative test result is received.

All Close Contacts- While in the 14-day isolation, all persons shall isolate themselves at home and monitor themselves for symptoms. The person shall limit travel outside of the home to those trips that are absolutely necessary for food and supplies. The person shall wear a mask when making those trips and limit exposure to others in the household. The person should contact the clinic at 715-682-7133 if they develop symptoms. If symptoms become severe or life-threatening they should call 911 or go to the Emergency Room.

**(Continued on Page 26)**

**(Continued from Page 25)**

Close Contacts are released from isolation if they do not develop symptoms within the 14-day period while potentially infectious or a negative test result is received

**PERSONS WHO NEED TO MONITOR HEALTH CONDITION**

People who have Indirect Contact with a person identified as having COVID-19 or those who had Indirect Contact (2 days prior or less) to a person who later tested positive for COVID-19.

Employees who had indirect contact with a person known to have COVID-19 shall notify Public Health of the indirect contact. Contact tracers will interview those with indirect contact to confirm the contact was not close contact. If the contact is confirmed as indirect, the person will be required to test for COVID-19. If the results are positive the person will follow the guidance for Persons who tested positive for COVID-19. If the results are negative, the person will be cleared for work, but shall monitor themselves for symptoms and notify Public Health if symptoms appear.

Non-Employees who had indirect contact with a person known to have COVID-19 will be offered a COVID-19 test. If the results are positive the person will follow the guidance for Persons who tested positive for COVID-19. If the results are negative, the person shall monitor themselves for symptoms and notify their primary care provider if symptoms appear.

**SELF-ISOLATION REQUIRED PENDING FURTHER DIRECTION**

Persons who have symptoms of respiratory illness (fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle pain, loss of taste or smell).

Employees who have symptoms of respiratory illness such as Fever, Cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle pain, or loss of taste or smell shall isolate themselves at home and contact Public Health. The employee will be required to meet with primary care provider to be screened for testing for COVID-19 or may be required to complete a 14-day isolation of which the last 3 days must be asymptomatic based on medical direction. Employees will require medical authorization clearing them to return to work.

Non-employees who have symptoms of respiratory illness such as Fever, Cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle pain, or loss of taste or smell shall isolate themselves at home and contact BRHWC or primary care provider.

**GENERAL GUIDANCE**

Community members who have a different scenario than listed above, or have a concern about COVID-19:

Everyone should monitor themselves for symptoms of illness, limit travel, and practice social distancing. Social distancing means staying 6 feet or more away from others. If a community member has concerns or questions about COVID-19, they can call Public

**(Continued on Page 27)**

**(Continued from Page 26)**

Health at 715-682-7133 for more information on COVID-19.

If the person starts experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness (fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle pain, loss of taste or smell) they should call the Bad River Health & Wellness Center Triage line at 715-682-7133 or their medical provider.

Contact  
Tracing

The Tribe's Public Health Department is functioning as a tribal public health agency for this COVID-19 public health emergency. As COVID-19 is a communicable disease, this means the Tribe needs to identify people who have been in contact with a person who tested positive for COVID-19 as those contacts were exposed to the disease.

Contact Tracers are required to keep the identification of a person who tested positive for COVID-19 private as they contact other people who may have been exposed. Contact tracers will not confirm, deny, or disclose the identity of someone who tested positive to those they are contacting. The individual who tested positive may self-disclose their status.

Contact tracers may through the interview process, identify someone as having contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19. Contact tracers will identify the person as being a household contact or having close contact or indirect contact. If a person (both employee or non-employee) is identified as having a contact with person who tested positive for COVID-19, they must follow the guidance in this Order that matches their level of contact. If the contact level is not clear to the contact tracers, but contact exists, the person will be considered as having close contact.

The Tribe, as part of its workplace-related medical surveillance order for COVID-19, refers all employees for testing if they are identified as a household or close contact through contact tracing. Based on this referral, Public Health will inform the Tribe's HR and/or Public Health Departments of test and quarantine/isolation status of employees.

The following are the normal types of questions that contact tracers ask people as part of the contact tracing process. Both the Primary person (person who tested positive for COVID-19) and other people identified as potential contacts are contacted.

- 1) Name
- 2) Date of birth
- 3) Sex
- 4) What is your occupation and name of workplace?
- 5) Are you in close contact with other people while you are at work?
- 6) Do you work in a health-care, long-term care facility, or a setting that serves elderly?
- 7) Where do you live?
- 8) Who else lives with you?
- 9) Where do the others in your household work?
- 10) What date did symptoms first occur?
- 11) What symptoms have you experienced?
- 12) Did you have a COVID-19 test? If so, when? Where were you tested, what were the results?
- 13) Have you had close contact with other community members who are not in your household over the last 14 days prior to onset of symptoms? If so, who?

## Disorderly Conduct Code

### Bad River Tribal Court Code Chapter 146 – Disorderly Conduct Code

relating to: disorderly conduct code title, statement of purpose and definitions, enforcement and penalties.

**an amendment relating to: Public Health Quarantine Order dated August 6, 2020 enforcement; and  
an amendment relating to: applying the Public Health Release dated July 20, 2020 regarding face coverings and masks to public or business space and outdoors where unable to maintain physical distance and enforcement.**

Chapter 146 of the Bad River Tribal Court Code is created to read:

Section 146.01 Title, Statement of Purpose and Definitions.

A. Title. This Code may be cited as the “Disorderly Conduct Code.”

B. Statement of Purpose. The purpose of this Code is to:

1. Eliminate offensive behaviors and maintain peace within the Bad River community;
2. To hold violators accountable for their actions;
3. To promote health, safety, and well-being to anyone within the boundaries of the Bad River Reservation.

C. Construction. This Chapter shall be liberally construed to effect the purposes stated above and shall be interpreted to comport with the customs and traditions of this Tribe. If Tribal Law, customs, or traditions are inconclusive in any matter arising under this chapter, then other Tribal Law, Federal Law, and as a last resort, the law of the State of Wisconsin, may be used for guidance.

D. Definitions. As used in this Chapter the following terms shall have the meanings given below:

#### Disorderly Conduct

Any person subject to the jurisdiction of the Bad River Reservation who is found, by a preponderance of the evidence, to have engaged intentionally in any of the following behaviors on the Reservation, knowing, or having reasonable grounds to know that such behavior will, or will tend to alarm, anger or disturb others or provoke an assault or breach of the peace, is guilty of disorderly conduct, which is a civil misdemeanor, and is subject to a fine.

**(Continued on Page 29)**



**(Continued from Page 29)**

**over their nose and mouth when in the following situations: inside any public or business space; and while outdoors in public spaces and unable to maintain a 6 – foot distance between individuals.**

Section 146.02 Enforcement.

- A. The Tribal Police shall have the authority to investigate any disturbance on the Reservation. Upon reasonable suspicion, which may be based on the complaint of another person, that any person subject to the jurisdiction of the Bad River Reservation is engaging in or has engaged in disorderly conduct as defined in section 146.01D. of this chapter, the Tribal Police shall determine whether a citation according to Section 146.03 of this chapter shall be issued.
- B. As used in this section, “Reservation” means lands owned or held in trust for the Bad River Tribe.
- C. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as a waiver of sovereign immunity of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

**an amendment relating to: Public Health Quarantine Order dated August 6, 2020 enforcement**

**D. The Tribal Police shall have the authority to execute the Public Health Order dated August 6, 2020 and a Public Health Nurse quarantine, isolation, restriction or other action if the quarantine or other restriction is violated, including removing a person to a designated place.**

Section 146.03 – Penalties.

Any person who violates this Chapter shall be subject to the following:

- A. A civil forfeiture not less than \$50.00 but not to exceed \$500.00 for the first offense; and/or
- B. A civil forfeiture not less than \$100.00 but not to exceed \$1000.00 for a second offense within a five (5) year period; and/or
- C. A penalty other than those stated above as deemed appropriate by the Court, to be determined on a case-by-case basis.





# **NOTICE:**

## **BAD RIVER TRIBAL ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FOR THE NOVEMBER 3, 2020 ELECTION FOR:**

**VICE-CHAIRPERSON, SECRETARY AND (1) JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBER**

Absentee Ballot Rules:

As of September 17, 2020 Each qualified eligible voter shall request his/her own absentee ballot and include the following information:

1. DATE OF REQUEST
2. PRINTED COMPLETE NAME (including maiden name and any aliases, if applicable)
3. CURRENT ADDRESS
4. TELEPHONE NUMBER (if applicable)
5. LEGIBLE SIGNATURE



6. EACH REQUEST MUST ALSO INCLUDE A COPY OF A BAD RIVER TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP IDENTIFICATION CARD (showing both front and back of the card) OR CERTIFICATION LETTER (A valid form of picture identification must accompany the aforementioned letter), ISSUED BY THE TRIBE AND SIGNED BY THE APPROPRIATE ENROLLMENT OFFICIAL

7. BALLOTS CAN ONLY BE REQUESTED AFTER THE PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND DURING THE SPECIFIED TIME FRAME ANY REQUEST RECEIVED AFTER OCTOBER 4, 2020 OR SENT TO ANY OTHER ADDRESS OR EMAIL LISTED BELOW WILL BE VOIDED AND COUNTED AS SUCH.

**BAD RIVER ELECTION COMMITTEE  
P.O. BOX 657 ASHLAND, WI 54806  
EMAIL: [ABSballotrequest@BadRiver.Com](mailto:ABSballotrequest@BadRiver.Com)**





## BAD RIVER HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER

### Some tips to help you through the day

Boozhoo, from the Bad River Health & Wellness AODA Program

I'd like to share a few helpful suggestions  
to help you through the day

While we are back at work we are remembering to social distance, wear masks, wash hands, and to include our relatives/family/friends that are home and in the community. Miigwetch for reading and please share

Possible things to do to while at home. Possible things to help others to prevent substance abuse.

Make crafts, beadwork, knitting, art work, planting, gardening, etc.

Meditate, make time for prayer and thought

Listen to music, learn to play an instrument, sing, hum

Whistle (remember to whistle while you work)

Daily reading, read positive quotes, affirmations

Do breathing exercising, breath in, breath out, allow your lungs to do the work

Spend time with positive people in positive environments

Self-prayer, self-smudging, asema offering

Be mindful of negative words and thoughts. Don't allow words to control or keep you feeling down. We have been told tomorrow or moments of the future is unknown, try and lift your spirit, we only have one chance for this life. Somedays we can only handle day by day, or moment to moment. Make the best of it!

If I can help or find someone, you're comfortable with please call

*Penny Charette: Cultural Liaison/AODA Support Staff @ 715-682-7133 ext. 4353*

If your struggling with alcohol/substance abuse, the Bad River AODA Program is offering a virtual on-line meeting, and social distancing office visits

We can help you find a sponsor if your struggling

*If you would like to talk or meet with an AODA Counselor, or Peer Specialist, please call the Bad River AODA Program @ 715-682-7863 to set up an appointment*

*We are in this together*

## Planning for Traditional Harvesting?

As we are all well aware, the need to keep ourselves safe and prevent the spread of Covid-19, our much-loved traditions need to adapt accordingly. This is a year to take what you know of Harvesting/Hunting activities in your own way, perhaps with those closest to you.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in an effort to keep Bad River as safe as possible, we have implemented harvesting guidelines for this year. We respectfully ask that all Bad River Harvesters/Hunters respect and comply with this guidance.

We are asking if you are traveling to Bad River from another location that you receive a rapid COVID-19 test. This can be done by calling the Bad River Health & Wellness Center (715-682-7133) before your travel, to schedule an appointment for a rapid COVID-19 test. You may be required to fill out some paperwork prior to your test. If you have questions about the test, please contact Bad River Public Health 715-682-7133 or 715-292-7368.

### **Please take extra precautions during this time**

Avoid crowded areas

Maintain social distancing (6 feet)

Keep proper hygiene

Limit group gatherings

Stay home if you are sick

Wear a mask

STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY!





## BAD RIVER HOUSING AUTHORITY

P.O. BOX 57 • Odanah, Wisconsin 54861 • (715) 682-2271 • FAX (715) 682-6818

Memo  
Monday, September 14, 2020

### Reminder to update your household composition

It is important to update your composition if you have changes in your household. If you are laid off or have changes to your employment, please call or email.

- Micki Corbine [OccupancySpecialist@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:OccupancySpecialist@badriver-nsn.gov)
- Rae Ann Bender [ResidentSpecialist@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:ResidentSpecialist@badriver-nsn.gov)
- 715-682-2271

- There is a drop box for rent payments or paperwork located at the front doors
- There is a doorbell at the front door
- Call the BRHA to arrange for staff to drop off and pick up important documents

The BRHA Maintenance Staff will continue to respond only to emergency work orders. If there is health and safety concerns, please call.

- Emergency call 911
- On-Call Phone at 715-292-8847 (BRHA maintenance staff will be wearing protective gear upon entry)

The BRHA Lobby is temporarily closed. Please call ahead for garbage stickers to be mailed or rent payment arrangements.

- 715-682-2271

Thank you for your support and understanding in this difficult time. Stay safe and healthy.

Miigwech,

Jennifer Toribio-Warren  
Executive Director  
[brhaed@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:brhaed@badriver-nsn.gov)





## BAD RIVER HOUSING AUTHORITY

P.O. BOX 57 • Odanah, Wisconsin 54861 • (715) 682-2271 • FAX (715) 682-6818

Memo  
Subject to change  
Wednesday, September 16, 2020

Boozhoo,

As we continue to monitor Coronavirus (COVID-19) developments closely, the health and well-being of our employees, families and community members is our greatest concern.

In this time of hardship, the BRHA will continue to cut back on non-essential services such as entering homes for painting, cabinet repairs, flooring, etc.

The BRHA Maintenance Staff will continue to respond only to emergency work orders. If there are health and safety concerns, please call

- On-Call Phone at 715-292-8847 (BRHA Maintenance Staff will be wearing protective gear upon entry)
- In addition, the maintenance staff will be asking the following questions upon entering your unit:
  - Has anyone in your household tested positive for COVID19?
  - Is anyone in your household in self-isolation or quarantine?
  - Is anyone in your household currently experiencing symptoms of COVID19?

Symptoms include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea

- Please remove everyone from the room where we will be working.

We will continue to monitor this situation and hope these steps will help in the fight in spreading the virus. Thank you for your support and understanding in this difficult time. Stay safe and healthy.

Miigwech,

*Jennifer Toribio-Warren*

Jennifer Toribio-Warren  
Executive Director  
[brhaed@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:brhaed@badriver-nsn.gov)





## **Tribal policy means daily screening for all employees**

### **COVID-19 Temperature and Screening Policy and Procedure DAILY SCREENING OF ALL EMPLOYEES**

The purpose of this procedure is to define the Bad River Tribe's policy with respect to daily screening and temperature administration for all Tribal Employees during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

**Defined:**

Pandemic: A disease prevalent over the whole country or the whole world.

**Scope of this Policy:**

This is a mandatory procedure and shall be followed daily by all Bad River Tribal employees upon entering the Tribal facility in which they work.

**The Policy:**

Effective Monday, June 15, 2020, all employees reporting to work will be screened daily for respiratory symptoms and have their body temperature taken as a precautionary measure to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Every employee will be screened, including having his or her temperature taken, when reporting to work. Employees should report to their work location or a central screening location upon arrival at work and prior to entering any other Bad River Tribal community facilities.

Each employee will be screened privately by a designated screener, using a touchless forehead/temporal artery thermometer. The employee's temperature and answers to respiratory symptom questions will be documented, and the record will be maintained as an employee data log.

An employee who has a fever at or above 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or who is experiencing coughing or shortness of breath will be sent home to follow the Return to Work Following Screening Temporary Policy. The employee should monitor his or her symptoms and call a doctor or use telemedicine if concerned about the symptoms.

Each Tribal Department will manage their own screening process. For departments with a population of more than ten (10) employees, the Department Head is responsible for designating and scheduling employees to conduct screening in their location. In cases of facilities housing multiple departments (Blackbird Center, Health & Wellness Center), Department Heads will work together for the designation and scheduling of screener employees.

Employees designated as screeners will be trained by the Health & Wellness Center Medical Team.

# BAD RIVER BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

CHIEF BLACKBIRD CENTER

P.O. Box 39 Odanah, Wisconsin 54881

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### **Bad River Statement on Prevention of COVID-19 within the Reservation**

In a decision May 13, 2020 the State Supreme Court decided almost all of the State's Safer-at-Home Order, Executive Order 28, is not enforceable. In response Michael Wiggins Jr., Bad River Chairman, issued the following statement:

"The Bad River Tribal Council closed the gaming facility and limited other activities in Odanah, Wis. with the outcome of protecting our tribal community and surrounding areas.

"Regardless of the State Supreme Court decision, the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa will continue to follow the 'Safer-at-Home' guidance with the outcome of protecting the safety and health of the community while relying closely on the guidance of our public health and medical staff.

"We encourage other governments and municipalities or the broader public to voluntarily follow the safer-at-home guidelines to ensure the long-term safety and health of our communities."

For more information please read the Coronavirus Updates page at <http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/news/> and the attached Flyer. Miigwech!



# BAD RIVER BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

CHIEF BLACKBIRD CENTER

P.O. Box 39 Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

Date: Monday, June 15, 2020  
To: All Bad River Employees  
From: Mike Wiggins Jr. Tribal Chairman / Executive Director   
Subject: Travel Guidance

As we begin our return to the workplace full-time, I wanted to share key guidelines. To date our Tribe has been very pro-active in preventive practices, which have resulted in zero positive COVID 19 cases on the Bad River Tribal Reservation. For that, I thank each of you. Together we have made a positive and collective difference.

The following guidelines apply to all Bad River Tribal employees when traveling outside the area. You should interpret this as travel to areas other than home and work, and regular weekly routines in your residential area.

- You should discuss all travel plans with your Supervisor in advance of that travel.
- If your work-related travel is essential, your Supervisor may approve your travel. Your Supervisor also may deny that travel request. Approved essential travel will see employees undergoing a rapid test for covid-19 upon return, prior to returning to your job site. The rapid test will determine if self isolation/quarantine is needed. In the event of a positive test as a result of work-related travel, time off will be covered under administrative leave time.
- Non-essential work travel is highly discouraged until further notice.
- For personal, non-essential travel into areas of great activity or higher populations (metro areas, cities, high levels of human activity), you will be required to take a COVID 19 test prior to returning to work. Please call the Bad River Health & Wellness Center ahead to schedule your test. Upon request, the clinic will provide you with a written copy of your test results. Self isolation/quarantine that is necessary due to personal travel will be covered with the employee banked leave. If in the event there was no leave bank, administrative leave could be considered for public health and safety. Communication with supervisors prior to travel is key.
- Depending on each circumstance of travel, you may be expected to self-quarantine upon return for a period of 14 calendar days and use the appropriate paid/unpaid leave.
- If, in the process of tracing and tracking, you have been identified as having been exposed to a positive COVID 19 citizen, you are expected to be COVID 19 tested and quarantined 14 days. Administrative leave would be provided.

Miigwech.



## BAD RIVER BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

CHIEF BLACKBIRD CENTER

P.O. BOX 39

ODANAH, WI 54861

### **COVID-19 tests a must before returning to work**

June 8, 2020

To: All Bad River Employees

From: Ron Teliszczak

Subject: COVID 19 Testing

It was requested that this memo be sent to all employees. During the Tribal Council Meeting on June 3, 2020, the Tribal Council voted unanimously that COVID 19 testing shall take place. That is, before you return to work next week, you must be COVID 19 tested at the Bad River Health & Wellness Center. This is mandatory.

Please call the Health & Wellness Center as soon as possible to schedule your test. The phone number to call is (715) 682-7133. You will not be allowed to return to work without having taken this test.

If you do not take your COVID 19 test, you will have to take annual leave or leave without pay until after you have your test.

Thank you.



Ron Teliszczak  
HR Manager





**\*\*\*COMMUNITY NOTICE\*\*\***

## Vehicle Registration and Titling

Vehicle Registration and Titling Location and Times Due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

Administrative staff will be available to assist community members with vehicle titling and registration as follows:

By Appointment ONLY (Tuesday and Thursday afternoons) 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Please call and schedule a time (715-682-7111).

At Chief Blackbird Center Odanah, Wis.

Please bring exact change and see the following staff:

Lee Crowe, Administrative Receptionist ext. 1500

Amy Gonzalez, Tribal Operations Assistant ext. 1505 or Denise Gilles, Benefits Specialist ext. 1242

~Miigwech



# BAD RIVER BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

CHIEF BLACKBIRD CENTER

P.O. Box 39 Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

## NOTICE

### **Bad River Lake Superior Chippewa Indian Reservation and Road Closure**

In order to maintain public health, safety, and limit exposure to COVID-19 the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa has issued the following order:

#### NOTICE:

The BAD RIVER BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA serves notice that non-tribal access to Bad River Tribally owned FCL or open MFL lands within the boundaries of the Bad River Reservation is hereby revoked. Trespassers to BAD RIVER BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA FCL or open MFL lands will be subject to citations for trespass.

And;

Access to all Bad River Reservation roads off of US Hwy 2 State Hwy 169, State Hwy 13 and County A (Road detail below) are closed and will be operating under restricted access until further notice. Access is restricted except to the following:

- \* All Community residents;
- \* Bad River Members;
- \* Tribal Government essential employees;
- \* Delivery of necessary goods and services, US Post Office, and Food and basic necessities, and other preapproved personnel

Closed roads: Birch, Pine Flat, Falls, Elm Hoist, Potato River, Jolma, Jusala, Albert Mattson, West Fire Lane, Stones, First Landing, Second Landing, Goslin, Kagerville, Kakagon, Lake, Madigan, Beauregard, Ackley, Government, Graveyard Creek

Miigwech (Thank you),

Mike Wiggins Jr.  
Tribal Chairman  
(715) 292-2930





**"Through Their Eyes"-connecting our worlds through art to show support for victims/survivors of domestic violence.**

*We challenge YOU to create a personal piece of art within the theme of "Through Their Eyes" - giving your own perspective on the impact abuse has on victims and their families and/or the healing journey towards attaining a life of peace.*

*Submissions can be watercolor, painting, photography, drawing, sculptures, or any other creative, inspiring ways you want to participate! Submission accepted until Sept. 30th, 2020. Open to ages 18 and older.*



**OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

**VISIT [WWW.NDSHELTER.ORG](http://WWW.NDSHELTER.ORG) for more info and submission forms!**



# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



**Is a national community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships**

The National Night Out culminates annually on the first Tuesday in August as it enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are strongly recommending that all National Night Out 2020 areas celebrate on October 6th, the first Tuesday in October.

The best way to build a safer community is to know your neighbors and your surroundings. National Night Out triumphs over a culture that isolates us from each other and allows us to rediscover our own communities.



**The Department of Social & Family Services held a National Night Out awareness event in 2019 that centered on rebuilding a positive relationship with the community and law enforcement. Due to the current pandemic the Zhwenidig Unit of the Department of Social & Family Services will begin to organize the 2020 National Night Out event for Tuesday, October 6, 2020. Watch for more information coming soon.**

National Night Out is celebrated by millions of neighbors across thousands of communities. For more information contact:800.648.3688 | [info@natw.org](mailto:info@natw.org) | ©2020 National Night Out. All Rights Reserved

We strongly recommend that all NNO 2020 areas celebrate on October 6th due to COVID-19.

# What Tribal Members need to know about COVID-19

## What is coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?

Coronaviruses are a type of virus (germ) that can cause cold-like symptoms and sometimes serious problems with lungs and breathing. COVID-19 is a novel (new) coronavirus.

## What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Mild to severe respiratory illness, or problems with lungs and breathing. Symptoms include:

- **Cough or shortness of breath.**

Or at least two of these symptoms:

- **Fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell.**



## How does COVID-19 spread?

Person to person by coughing, sneezing, or personal contact like touching or shaking hands. Someone with mild symptoms may spread the disease without knowing they are sick.

## Who is most at risk?

Anyone can get COVID-19. Those at risk of severe illness include:

- **Elders and adults over 60 years of age,**
- **People with heart disease, lung disease, or diabetes.**

## How can I protect myself and my family?

**Stay at home.** "Social distancing" is recommended. This means keeping your family at home and away from others who may be sick.

- If you must go out, wear a mask or bandana and try to stay 6 feet away from others.
- Avoid gatherings with other people.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Do not shake hands, hug, or touch others.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer.

## Have there been cases of COVID-19 in our state?

Yes, there have been cases in all 50 states.

## If someone gets sick, what can they do?

- **If someone thinks they have been around someone with COVID-19 and they get a fever and symptoms such as cough or trouble breathing, they should call their healthcare provider or local Indian Health Service unit for medical advice.**
- In an emergency, call 911.
- People who are mildly sick with COVID-19 do not need to see a healthcare provider and are able to recover at home.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash hands.
- Stay home and away from others for 14 days to avoid getting others sick.
- Caregivers should keep sick family members away from others in the home and clean and disinfect surfaces and items that are touched often, like door handles, sink handles, toilets, remote controls, etc.

## Is there a vaccine or treatment?

There is no vaccine. The best way to reduce the risk of getting sick with COVID-19 is to practice social distancing and healthy habits like washing hands regularly.

There is no specific treatment for COVID-19, but medical care can help relieve symptoms. If you are sick, call your healthcare provider for instructions.

For more information:  
**[CDC.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)**



JOHNS HOPKINS  
CENTER FOR AMERICAN  
INDIAN HEALTH

Effective May 5, 2020  
Source: CDC

# Need Help Preparing for College?

Apply to be a part of the GEAR Up Program!

**Open to Ashland & Bayfield Students  
6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade!**

## WHAT WE OFFER:

- Potential for up to \$3,500 in scholarships and grants
- Career Exploration
- Dual Enrollment Opportunities
- Tutoring and Mentoring
- Cultural and Social Events
- Educational Workshops
- Precollege Summer Programs
- Visits to College Campuses
- STEM Club Activities and Field Trips/Events
- Assistance with College Admissions
- Financial Aid Guidance and Information
- Fee Waivers for College Applications and ACT Testing
- Job Shadowing Experiences and Youth Apprenticeship Opportunities

Download an  
Application TODAY!  
[dpi.wi.gov/weop](http://dpi.wi.gov/weop)

## MORE INFORMATION:

Heather Laakso  
WEOP Supervisor  
WI Department of Public Instruction  
620 Beaser Avenue  
Ashland, WI 54806  
Phone: 715-682-0732  
[heather.laakso@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:heather.laakso@dpi.wi.gov)

 Find us on  
Facebook





Join Us...Maawanji'idiwag ☺  
**Bad River's Ojibwemowin Virtual  
Language Table!!**

Every Wednesday...Endaso-Aapitooseg  
Two Sessions: (5-6:30 p.m.) & (7-8:30 p.m.)

Via Zoom# 89840911902  
Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89840911902>



## Potato River Road will be temporarily closed, beginning Sept. 17

Please be advised that starting on Thursday Sept. 17, 2020 Potato River Road will be temporarily closed due to road construction. Construction will be replacing a failing culvert near the North Vaughn Creek

Bridge. Road will be completely impassable at that location. The rest of the road will remain open, both from the Elm Hoist side and Hwy. 169. Road will be closed for approximately 2 weeks. We apologize for

any inconvenience this may cause. Thanks and have a great day.

**Ben Connors Sr.**  
Bad River Roads Dept. Manager

## Manomin Restaurant hours

**To:** Everyone

**From:** Linton Rembert

**Date:** 7/31/20

**RE:** Restaurant Hours

As of August 1, 2020, Manomin Restaurant will be closed on Saturdays and Sundays, and open 9 a.m.-2 p.m. weekdays. We will be open until 2 p.m. and will not be closing early. We are still doing to-go orders only. Please call your order in ahead and practice social distancing. Thank you for your time and attention.

## NOTICE

THURSDAY OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2020

11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

THE TRANSIT DEPARTMENT

WILL BE CLOSED FOR A STAFF MEETING

SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIENCE  
PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY

## If you need to contact the school ...

For any parent or students needing to contact the school regarding virtual learning, problems with Chromebooks or any other assistance, you can contact our Home School Coordinators using the information below.

**Dial direct line:** 715-682-7827, then enter extension.

**Extensions:**

Myron Burns (LSE)- 3412

[mburns@sdak12.net](mailto:mburns@sdak12.net)

Faye Maday (AMS)- 2012

[dnaday@sdak12.net](mailto:dnaday@sdak12.net)

Joe Corbin (AHS)- 1011

[jcorbine@sdak12.net](mailto:jcorbine@sdak12.net)

— Stephanie Julian, Education Director

## Bad River Food Shelf Hours

**Monday: 9 a.m.-noon**

**Tuesday: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.**

**Wednesday: 9 a.m.-noon**

**Thursday: 11 a.m.-noon**

**Friday: 9 a.m.-noon**

Anyone needing Food Shelf please call ahead before noon, 715-682-7127. If there is no answer leave a message with a return phone number.



## MANOOMIN— WILD RICE

Wild rice, also known as “the good berry” or “the food that grows on water”, has been a part of Anishinaabe culture since the great migration. It is highly nutritious and has more health benefits than white rice and brown rice. Wild rice contains:

- dietary fibers
- Iron
- Folate (folic acid)

All which may help the body with:

- a healthy digestive system
- Lowering blood cholesterol
- Lowering the risk for heart disease, obesity, and type 2 diabetes
- Form red blood cells



Provided by the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc.

Family Nutrition program (SNAP-Ed)

2932 HWY 47 N Lac du Flambeau WI 54538

Tel: (715)-588-3324 Email: [snap@glitc.org](mailto:snap@glitc.org)

FB @ Snap Ed Glitc

### **‘Drum Beats,’ Deadline!**

To get your news item in the next edition of “Drum Beats,” send email to [Newsletter@BadRiver-nsn.gov](mailto:Newsletter@BadRiver-nsn.gov) or call 920-857-4673 by noon on:

**October 8**



**COMING SOON!**

**Bad River COVID-19**

**Direct Emergency Relief Program**

*The Bad River Tribal Council established this program to provide relief to Bad River Tribal Members due to Coronavirus Health Pandemic. Through the CARES Act, Bad River will provide a one-time payment of \$600 to Bad River Tribal Members residing in Ashland, Bayfield, or Iron County.*

Applications will be available on **September 22, 2020**. Tribal members will have the option to submit online, email, or drop box located outside Casino entrance.

**WATCH FOR FLYER WITH MORE INFO  
& LINK TO ONLINE APPLICATION!**



**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE, FRIDAY OCTOBER 23, 2020 AT 4:30PM**

Approved relief payments will be issued via paper check and will be mailed directly to the recipient. Proof of Residence will be required.



**ATTENTION!!**

**THE BAD RIVER UTILITY DEPARTMENT WILL BE  
FLUSHING ALL FIRE HYDRANTS IN THE 3  
COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEMS;**

**(NEW ODANAH &  
DIAPERVILLE,**

**FRANKS FIELD, BIRCH HILL)**

**BEGINNING SEPT. 21, 2020 AND ENDING  
OCT. 23, 2020**

**WEATHER PERMITTING**

YOU MAY EXPERIENCE A SLIGHT DIP IN WATER PRESSURE DURING THIS TIME AND TEMPORARY DISCOLORATION OF WATER MAY OCCUR IN SOME AREAS. IF DISCOLORATION OCCURS, RUN WATER FOR TEN MINUTES OR UNTIL CLEAR BEFORE USE. AND PLEASE CHECK FOR DISCOLORATION BEFORE WASHING CLOTHES.

THE BAD RIVER WWTP WILL TRY TO KEEP ANY INCONVENIENCE TO A MINIMUM, AND APPRECIATE THE COOPERATION OF OUR CUSTOMERS ON THIS MATTER. ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT PHILIP LIVINGSTON @715-685-7878 or 715-292-5339.



## Care for your mental health, too!

During the COVID-19 Crisis, it is just as important to care for your mental health as it is your physical health. If you or someone you know is struggling, REACH OUT. Here are just a few of the resources available. We will continue to share free resources with you during this difficult time.

### Mental Health:

**7 cups:** [www.7cups.com](http://www.7cups.com); free online text chat for emotional support and counseling

**Disaster Distress Helpline:** 800-985-5990

Or text TalkWithUs to 66746

**Suicide Prevention Hotline:** 800-273-8255

Or text CONNECT to 741741

**MoodGYM:** [moodgym.com.au](http://moodgym.com.au)

**National Domestic Violence Hotline:** 800-799-7233

### Recovery Resources:

**Bad River AODA Open Recovery Meeting:** 4pm daily.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/130162509>

Or call 1-646-749-3122 Access Code: 130-162-509

**In The Rooms:** [intherooms.com/home/](http://intherooms.com/home/)

Please call the Bad River Health and Wellness Center at 715-682-7133 if you have questions or would like more information

## New Signs and Symptoms of COVID-19 seen in children

### WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

High Fevers (lasting for 5 or more days)

Rashes on the Torso or Groin

Blood Shot Eyes

Red Swollen lips

Red hands and soles of feet (resembling sun-burn)

Swelling in the lymph nodes

Peeling skin on hands and feet

Temporary Hearing Loss

Low Blood Pressure

Confusion

Headaches

Muscle Aches

**If your child is experiencing any of these symptoms, please contact your health care provider ASAP.**



# Bad River Running Club

**ALL YOUTH 5—18 YEARS OF AGE**

**WELCOME!**



\* Sponsored by Bad River Healthy Lifestyles



- \* To join, sign up with Healthy Lifestyles
- \* Incentives for every 25 miles ran, increasing in value
- \* Diverse workouts (trail runs, lake front runs, speed trials, competitive runs, water workouts, etc)

## Contact:

Coach Pero 715-292-5204

Nate Ante 715-292-9952

Kateri DeFord 715-292-3802

**OF COURSE IT'S HARD  
IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE HARD  
IF IT WAS EASY, EVERYONE  
WOULD DO IT. HARD IS WHAT  
MAKES IT GREAT**





## **Bad River Transit rolls again!**

**The Bad River Transit will resume its regular schedule Routes on October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020**

**Route "A" will remain the same as before beginning service at 7am ending service at 4pm**  
**Route "B" will start service one hour later at 8am ending service at 5pm**

**Each route will first travel to Birch Hill and continue back westward to Ashland at Walmart**

**Repeating the routes until end of service.**

**The Sunday and all evening routes will remain as demand service until further notice**

**Call 715-292-1108 or 1109 at least one hour prior to schedule your ride**

**There will be copies of the route info. on each bus**

**Any Questions please call 715-685-9461**

**Thank you**



**FEHB** Federal Employees Health Benefits

# Flu Shots for Feds

Did you know that all FEHB health plans cover flu shots at no cost to their members? Many plans offer flu shots for children and adults at convenient locations, like retail pharmacies.

Scan the QR codes using your mobile device camera or use the websites to find out more:



Use your zip code to find your local flu shot at: [vaccinefinder.org](https://vaccinefinder.org). Always ask about full coverage before receiving care.



Review your FEHB Plan Brochure at: [www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/healthcare/plan-information/plans/](https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/healthcare/plan-information/plans/).

For the best protection against seasonal flu, get an annual flu vaccine each and every year. It's also a great time to make sure you are up to date on other recommended vaccines.



Take advantage of your preventive health benefits!





**BAD RIVER HOUSING AUTHORITY**

P.O. BOX 57 • Odenah, Wisconsin 54861 • (715) 682-2271 • FAX (715) 682-6010

The Bad River Housing  
Authority **Lobby Is Closed.**  
Call for an appointment.

Garbage stickers will be mailed upon  
request. To make this request, please call  
715-682-2271 or email Taylor Rosin  
[HousingRecpt@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:HousingRecpt@badriver-nsn.gov)

**On-Call Phone for emergencies**  
**715-292-8847**

or email Don Nelis Jr. for non-  
emergencies  
[housingmaint@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:housingmaint@badriver-nsn.gov)





# Youth Regalia Making



*Youth Service Department will be providing Youth Regalia Making classes*

*Located at the Bad River Youth Service Department (Annex building)*

*Two classes will be held weekly  
Males Wednesday's (starting July 15<sup>th</sup>)  
Females Thursday's (starting July 16<sup>th</sup>)  
Ages 10-13 years old 9:00-11:00am  
14-17 years old 1:00-4:00 pm  
(If we need more time, we will provide more sessions as well)*

***Very Limited spots available***

***We will be practicing social distancing  
please call to reserve***

*Any questions or additional information, please call Mary @715-682-7111 ext. 1612  
or 715-292-5073 or email: [NativeConnectionsMgr@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:NativeConnectionsMgr@badriver-nsn.gov)*

## **Education Department remains open to offer help during COVID-19**

The Bad River Education Department remains open during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The department can be contacted at the information listed here for all of your higher education needs.

If you are a current student who will be continuing college in the Fall, please send email for a scholarship application and any questions you might have.

We are here to help!

Education Dept.

Bad River Tribe

P.O. Box 39

72682 Maple St.

Odanah, WI 54861

Phone: (715) 682-7111 ext. 1533





# Mashkiziibii Natural Resources Department

## **Public Services & Who to Contact**

<b>If you need....</b>	<b>Then contact...</b>
<b>to Register you ATV/UTV, Boat, or Snowmobile</b>	<a href="mailto:DNRecept@badriver-nsn.gov">DNRecept@badriver-nsn.gov</a> OR call (715) 682-7123 and leave a voice message
<b>to obtain an Access Permit</b>	<a href="mailto:DNRecept@badriver-nsn.gov">DNRecept@badriver-nsn.gov</a> OR call (715) 682-7123 and leave a voice message
<b>to obtain an Access Permit if you are Enbridge or Enbridge's contractor</b>	<a href="mailto:NRDirector@badriver-nsn.gov">NRDirector@badriver-nsn.gov</a>
<b>to obtain a Burn Permit</b>	Conservation Warden Brad Bigboy at (715) 292-7822
<b>to submit a Project Review Application or Questions</b>	<a href="mailto:Environmental@badriver-nsn.gov">Environmental@badriver-nsn.gov</a>
<b>a Map or assistances with a Webmap application</b>	<a href="mailto:gspec@badriver-nsn.gov">gspec@badriver-nsn.gov</a>
<b>to obtain your Lake Trout Tags</b>	<a href="mailto:FishTech@badriver-nsn.gov">FishTech@badriver-nsn.gov</a> OR call (715) 682-7152
<b>to submit a POWTS application or follow up on a POWTS application</b>	<a href="mailto:POWTS@badriver-nsn.gov">POWTS@badriver-nsn.gov</a> OR call (715) 685-8727
<b>an Equipment Inspection</b>	call (715) 979-1071 and leave a voice message
<b>To obtain Off-reservation registration</b>	Call (715) 682-7123 MNRD Administrative Assistant OR (715) 292-7822 Conservation Warden Brad Bigboy

**For Current Reservation Beach Status Call (715) 685-7870**

**For other inquiries, call 715-682-7123 and leave a voice message and we'll connect you with Department staff.**





# ATTENTION!



**Due to the Safety of our Community and staff during this pandemic the Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department will be CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC until further notice.**

~Contact Us by Email or Phone with any Questions~

**Main Office:** (715) 682-7123  
**Office Hours:** 8:00a.m. - 4:30p.m. (M- F)  
**Wardens:** Brad - (715) 292-7822  
Stanlee - (715) 292-1902

\*Visit our Website for email addresses and more contact information\*

<http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/natural-resources/>

*We appreciate your understanding during this time.*



## CORONAVIRUS SAFETY



Follow these easy steps to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.



Disinfect surfaces around your home and work.



Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds.



Sneeze or cough? Cover your mouth.



## 'End' Quote

The Bad River Domestic & Sexual Abuse Program shares this statement for the week. These weekly statements address various issues, concerns and thoughts that we hope you will read and consider why it was written:

***"It's not what happens to you that determines how far you will go in life; it is how you handle what happens to you."***

~ Quotes nThoughts.org

Watch for the next statement in the **October 14** newsletter. If you have a statement you would like to share, feel free to send it to Hiedi-Beth Burns, Coordinator/DV & SA Advocate & Legal Lay Advocate, Bad River Domestic Abuse Program. Send email to [brdap@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:brdap@badriver-nsn.gov)

**Hiedi-Beth Burns, Coordinator/DV & SA Advocate & Legal lay Advocate**

Bad River Domestic Abuse Program.

### BAD RIVER HOUSING BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

2020	REGULAR MEETING
January	01/14/20
February	02/11/20
March	03/10/20
April	04/14/20
May	05/12/20
June	06/09/20
July	07/14/20
August	08/11/20
September	09/08/20
October	10/13/20
November	11/10/20
December	12/08/20

All meetings are held

at the Bad River Housing Authority Conference Room at 6:00 p.m.

Electronic Conferencing



## **"Drum Beats,"**

is the newsletter for the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Drum Beats is circulated every other Wednesday throughout the year and is produced by The Bay City News Service of Ashland, Wis.

Send email to [Newsletter@BadRiver-nsn.gov](mailto:Newsletter@BadRiver-nsn.gov) or call 920-857-4673.

**Oct. 8 is the deadline to submit news items for Oct. 14 newsletter**